



Recreation Fee Program 2004

Forest Accomplishments

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region

Recreation Fees Support Forest Recreation

Northwest Forest Pass



Worker repairs flood damage on the Baker Lake Trail.

A major flood event hit the north end of the Forest in October 2003. Damage from the flood to the trail system is estimated at \$4.5 million. The Northwest Forest Pass (NWFP) program was a critical component in the initial repairs to several trails impacted by this flood. Contributions from NWFP of \$197,633 were used as a match to leverage another \$227,821 in grants from the State. These funds were used to help hire Forest trail crews. The NW Forest Pass also provided the funds to enter into partnership agreements with the Washington Trails Association, Pacific NW Trails Association, NW Youth Corps and Student Conservation Association. These groups and

many other organizations helped leverage approximately 50,000 hours of volunteer work and another 15,000 hours of hosted work. Numerous young people working in these programs gained experience working on a variety of projects from ditch cleaning to bridge building. NWFP also paid for trail maintenance contracts, trailhead maintenance personnel, trailhead toilet pumping, materials, and interpretive and maintenance staff in the Heather Meadows area. Empty toilets were flown in, and full toilets out of the Mt. Baker National Recreation Area and Mt. Baker Wilderness.

Cabin Rental Program

Two cabins, Suiattle Guard Station and Evergreen Mountain Lookout were available for rent this past year. Occupancy rates on both cabins were well over 75% during the rental period. Funds generated allowed for basic maintenance at both sites.

Christmas Tree Program

Permits went on sale on November 15th so that areas were open prior to Thanksgiving. This gave the public access to popular areas often covered by snow in December. Fee demo funds have paid to keep Ranger Stations open to the public on weekends and provide information on sites where trees may be available. The funds have also paid for snow plowing on the Snoqualmie District so the public can access areas to search for trees. Since commercial timber sales are rare on the Forest, fewer Christmas sized trees are available. A 10 acre area was planted on the Mt. Baker District last spring which will provide a good experience for Christmas tree cutters . . . in a few years.

More Detailed Information

Forest Website:

www.fs.fed.us/r6/mbs

Pacific Northwest Region

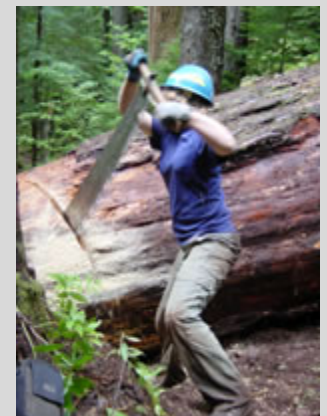
www.fs.fed.us/r6

Forest Accomplishments

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Your Fees At Work:

Removing log across North Fork Sauk Trail. Glacier Peak Wilderness

The Fees:

Project Name	Revenue Collected 2004	Expenditures 2004
Northwest Forest Pass	\$ 937,498	\$ 591,544
Golden Passes	\$ 90,192	\$ 34,022
Cabin Rental	\$ 8,530	\$ 2,892
Christmas Trees	\$ 64,665	\$ 42,535



*PNTA building new footlog
across Greenwater River,
Snoqualmie District*

The Accomplishments:

Northwest Forest Pass:

This year about 634 miles of trail had fallen trees removed and 348 were cleared of brush. This total is lower than years past due to a significant part of the trail system rendered inaccessible by the October 2003 flood. Work shifted to heavier reconstruction work and backlog maintenance on other trails, such as the Buck Creek Pass, High Divide, and Carbon Trails. The Washington Trails Association completed construction of about 1 mile of the Old Sauk Trail which was washed away by the flooding. Backcountry Horsemen did extensive work on the Goat Lake Trail



Cabin Rentals:

Your fees provided the funding for basic maintenance of the Suiattle Guard Station and Evergreen Mountain lookout. These funds also kept the cabins stocked with propane and other supplies.



Golden Passes:

The Golden Passes provided the funding to operate the Heather Meadows area and helped to keep the Austin Pass Visitor Center staffed. Funds were also used to maintain toilets and continue restoration work in this popular area.



Christmas Trees:

Funds allowed for Ranger District offices to be open on weekends to sell Christmas Tree permits. Field crews were available to provide information to those seeking trees. A 10 acre area was planted on the Mt. Baker District to provide a good low elevation Christmas tree area in the future. Funds also paid for some snow plowing to provide access to high quality sites.

